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**U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky  
Announces Personnel Actions at USTR**

USTR Charlene Barshefsky today announced five new senior career assignments: Robert B. Cassidy as Assistant U.S. Trade Representative (AUSTR) for China, Donald M. Phillips as AUSTR for Asia and the Pacific, Donald Abelson as Chief Negotiator for Communications and Information, Nancy Adams as Senior Trade Representative at the U.S. Mission to the EU, and James Murphy as AUSTR for Agriculture.

Barshefsky said, "The team of negotiators at USTR is second to none. These assignments will strengthen our ability to address vital U.S. trade interests."

- o **Robert B. Cassidy**, AUSTR for Asia and the Pacific since July 1992, has been named AUSTR for China. Mr. Cassidy is an experienced senior trade negotiator who has worked on a range of complex bilateral and multilateral trade negotiations and has worked extensively with the Chinese government through the APEC process. During the last two years, Mr. Cassidy has worked with China in the APEC process and has participated in a number of bilateral discussions between Ambassador Barshefsky and Chinese Trade Minister Wu Yi. Mr. Cassidy is well-known and respected throughout the Asia/Pacific region; he has played key roles in developing support for the Information Technology Agreement among APEC countries in 1996, in negotiating an auto market opening agreement with Korea in 1995, and in negotiating IPR agreements with Taiwan, the Philippines and Thailand in 1992-4.
- o **Donald M. Phillips**, AUSTR for Industry since July 1988, will serve as AUSTR for Asia and the Pacific. Mr. Phillips is a senior negotiator who has served as an advisor and negotiator in such critical trade areas as semiconductors, aerospace, shipbuilding, telecommunications and steel. Mr. Phillips started with USTR in 1980 as Director for

Commodity Policy, where he worked on a broad range of agricultural and commodity issues and later served as AUSTR for Policy Coordination. He offers hands-on knowledge of the Asia region and in-depth experience in both bilateral and multilateral negotiations involving Asian countries.

- o **Donald Abelson**, Chief Negotiator for Communications and Information, will remain in his position to lead USTR's effort focused on facilitating global electronic commerce over the internet. Mr. Abelson headed the U.S. interagency team that successfully negotiated the WTO basic telecommunications agreement in February 1997. During his more than twenty years with USTR, Mr. Abelson has served as Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Services, Investment & Intellectual Property, Acting AUSTR for Services, Investment and the Environment, Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for both Latin America and Mexico and as Director of Technical Trade Barriers.
- o **Nancy Adams**, AUSTR for APEC Affairs since 1993, served for the past year as Executive Director of the Presidential Commission on U.S.-Pacific Trade and Investment Policy. Ambassador Barshefsky recently nominated Ms. Adams as Senior Trade Representative at the U.S. Mission to the European Union in Brussels. She will depart for Brussels in the near future. Ms. Adams has been with USTR since 1977 serving in the Office of Policy Development as Director of Middle East, Africa and South Asian Affairs, Chief Market Access Negotiator for the Uruguay Round and Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Asia and the Pacific.
- o **James Murphy**, AUSTR for Europe and the Mediterranean, will serve as AUSTR for Agriculture. In his seventeen years at USTR, Mr. Murphy has served successively as AUSTR for Japan, for Europe and the Mediterranean, and for Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa. Mr. Murphy has also led the U.S. delegation to the OECD Trade Committee. From 1978-79, Mr. Murphy served as Deputy Director in the Treasury Department's Office of International Trade. From 1974-78, he served as Assistant Director for the Council on International Economic Policy at the White House. In these various capacities, Mr. Murphy had hands-on experience with agriculture issues, particularly in negotiations with the EU and Japan. Ms. Suzanne Early will continue to hold the position as Special Advisor for Agriculture.